

Message Text

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13
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 AID-05 COME-00

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, EAGR
SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

REF: STATE 223944

1. SINCE I HAD ALREADY SCHEDULED AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER SABAH AL-AHMAD FOR SEPTEMBER 13, I DECIDED TO REQUEST HIM TO CONVEY THE SECRETARY'S LETTER ON IFAD (REFTEL) TO THE CROWN PRINCE/PRIME MINISTER. BECAUSE THE SUBJECT FELL WITHIN HIS PROVINCE, I PROVIDED SHAIKH SABAH AL-AHMAD WITH A COPY OF THE SECRETARY'S LETTER AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT HE COULD RECOMMEND TO THE PRIME MINISTER A FAVORABLE RESPONSE. I UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROJECT AND HOW MUCH OF A SHAME IT WOULD BE IF IT DID NOT COME TO FRUITION BECAUSE OF THE SMALL AMOUNT THAT WAS INVOLVED.

2. FONMIN COMMENTED THAT OPEC NATIONS COULD NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DELAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF IFAD. THEY HAD CONTRIBUTED THE \$400 MILLION THEY SAID THEY WOULD.

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3. I ASSURED HIM THAT WE DID NOT HOLD OPEC RESPONSIBLE, BUT

EXPLAINED THAT IT HAD BEEN OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT OECD AND OPEC WOULD CONTRIBUTE EQUALLY TO IFAD. IT WAS ON THIS BASIS THAT WE REQUESTED CONGRESS TO AUTHORIZE \$200 MILLION AS OUR CONTRIBUTION. APPARENTLY THERE HAD BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING SOMEWHERE ABOUT THIS QUESTION OF EQUAL SHARING BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS.

4. SABAH AL-AHMAD SAID THAT HE WOULD CONVEY LETTER TO CROWN PRINCE/PRIME MINISTER PROMPTLY AND THAT IT WOULD BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THERE SHOULD BE WAYS TO OVERCOME THIS MISUNDERSTANDING SO THAT THE PROJECT COULD BE REALIZED. I EXPRESSED MY HOPE THAT THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE AND NOTED THAT THE PROJECT OFFERED AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN OECD AND OPEC COUNTRIES. I POINTED TO US WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FROM AN OPEC COUNTRY AS PRESIDENT OF IFAD AS EVIDENCE OF OUR DESIRE TO COOPERATE.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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